

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The Board convened in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Commissioners Stanton, Pridemore, and Morris, Chair, present.

PRESENTATION

An awards presentation was held in order to recognize Clark County youths for their outstanding achievements; this presentation served as a follow-up for those individuals who were unable to attend the Youth Achievement Awards that took place this past spring. Commissioner Morris presented awards to Jessica Campbell for her significant achievement in the area of leadership; and Sonnet Lauberth for her significant achievement in the area of inspiration.

*The Board of Commissioners adjourned and reconvened as the Board of Health.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Stanton to approve consent agenda item 1. Board Members Morris, Stanton, and Pridemore voted aye. Motion carried. (See tape 143)

*Reconvened as the Board of Commissioners*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners conducted the Flag Salute.

BID AWARD 2379

Reconvened a public hearing for Bid Award 2379 – Annual Sign Posts. Mike Westerman, General Services, read a memo recommending that Bid 2379 be awarded to the lowest bidder. There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Pridemore to award Bid 2379 to Traffic Safety Supply Company of Portland, Oregon, in the total bid amount of \$28,432.80, including Washington State sales tax and to grant authority to the County Administrator to sign all bid-related contracts. Commissioners Morris, Stanton, and Pridemore voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 143)

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker #1

*Curtis Achziger*, commented on an article in The Columbian entitled Old Cemetery Will Remain at WSU Station and asked the board if they had seen it.

The Commissioners responded that they had.

*Achziger* read a quote from the article – “Washington State University-Vancouver and Clark County announced their intentions to sell the 79-acre WSU Research Station on 78<sup>th</sup> Street in Hazel Dell.” Mr. Achziger stated that he was appalled and indicated that he thought the process was going to be an open one. He said that a park isn’t mentioned at all in the article. He said he is terrified of what he sees in terms of an open, democratic process. He further commented on the lack of parks in Clark County.

*Morris* stated that the board did not intend to just put the property on the market and sell it. She said she didn’t know why The Columbian had described it the way they did and she reiterated that the board had no intention of short-circuiting the public process and, in fact, they had not yet even made a definite commitment to sell.

*Achziger* stated that the committee appointed to work on the issue has only met once and they have provided limited input. It was also his understanding that a secret real estate meeting has taken place. He asked why realtors are already involved and why meetings are taking place, which aren’t open to the public. He said they need to have an open forum where the public can come to express their views.

*Morris* stated that there had been no secret meeting and the property was not on the market.

*Stanton* added that they do have a process in place to try to determine whether there are better uses for the property than the current use. She reiterated that they do not have it on the market and she’s not aware of any secret meetings.

*Achziger* said that there needed to be a clarification from the County Commissioners to counteract the article.

*Morris* indicated that this hearing would serve that purpose, as it was being televised and reporters were present.

There was further discussion.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*Pridemore* stated that the board has made it abundantly clear that they have no intention of selling land outright and, in fact, have discussed not doing anything with it at this point. He explained that WSU is going through a process to do a master plan involving the public and that it could be several months – if not a year-long – process. *Pridemore* stressed that nothing has changed.

*Bill Barron*, County Administrator, stated that J.D. White Company was hired for this process. He pointed out that they have done an excellent job regarding the Section 30 open public process, which has resulted in a significant disparate number of audience and parties involved. He said they plan to do the same thing in this matter, perhaps even wider. Mr. Barron indicated that if there are concerns, he would contact J.D. White Company.

Speaker #2

*Bridget Schwarz*, 2110 NW 179<sup>th</sup> Street, Ridgefield, Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association, commented on a flyer that she had received in the mail. She stated that many members of the Community Resource Team are disgruntled and see no point in moving forward in the process. Schwarz then explained that the secret meeting that Mr. Achziger had referenced was actually a secret meeting. The Community Resource Team knew about it, but weren't allowed to attend. She explained that it was a meeting between realtors, developers, and the J.D. White Company.

*Pridemore* asked Mr. Barron to check into this matter and find out what the Community Resource Team's involvement is. He said that the board's intention all along has been to do a very large public process, engaging everyone. He said he felt that a lead commissioner should become involved and have a meeting with people in order to find out what the problems are so that they can be resolved.

*Stanton* suggested that before it goes any further, they should have another work session to discuss the public involvement process and see how it's shaping up.

*Pridemore* said it sounds like it has gone a lot further than he was aware.

*Morris* agreed that they should probably schedule a work session and added that the lead people from WSU should attend.

*Barron* indicated that it would be taken care of.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Speaker #3

*Don Wastler*, 8811 NE 212<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, quoted the following: "...to improve the quality of life in Clark County." Mr. Wastler said he wondered whose life that meant. He then commented on a situation in which his father was taken to Southwest Washington Medical Center and then waited for three hours to be admitted because the facility is over its capacity. Wastler said he also recently had to take his mother to the emergency room and they had a wait of six hours because it was so overcrowded. He further explained. He also stated that the public facilities are over capacity. Mr. Wastler said the reason for all of this is that the high-production residential construction companies are exploiting our freedom. He then quoted the following phrase: "The wheel that squeaks the loudest is the one that gets the grease." He added that even a bad mechanic knows that if a wheel is squeaking, they all need grease and a good mechanic keeps them greased so that they don't squeak.

*Stanton* stated that she shares Mr. Wastler's concern about access to medical care. She said she had the opportunity to meet with a group that is continuing the effort to improve access to medical care in Clark County. She explained that the hospital has gone through a process to determine whether there was a state certificate of need, which is why they are getting the second hospital, as well as the additions to Southwest Washington Medical Center.

*Wastler* said the problem is that with the growth rate, by the time the new facilities are built they will be over capacity.

PUBLIC HEARING: TOURISM PROMOTION AREA (TPA)

Held a public hearing to consider an ordinance that would establish the TPA, impose a charge on the furnishing of lodging by eligible lodging businesses within the TPA, provide for the collection of the charge, provide for administration of the ordinance, and other matters related thereto.

*Bronson Potter*, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, requested that the board continue the hearing for two weeks. He explained that the creation of the Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) and the imposition of a \$2 per room charge on certain lodging would create a revenue source that will support the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). In turn, that source of revenue will free up some lodging tax revenue that the City of Vancouver is receiving. Mr. Potter stated that he is currently in the process of negotiating an agreement with the City of Vancouver to use that freed up lodging tax revenue as a source of a guarantee for the County Exhibition Hall. He said that he needs to get that agreement in place before they create the TPA and impose that charge.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

**MOVED** by Stanton to continue the public hearing regarding the Tourism Promotion Area until August 31, 2004 at 10 a.m., in the Commissioners' hearing room of the Clark County Public Service Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor. Commissioners Morris, Stanton, and Pridemore voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 143)

CONSENT AGENDA

There being no public comment, **MOVED** by Pridemore to approve items 1 through 14. Commissioners Morris, Stanton, and Pridemore voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 143)

PUBLIC MEETING: TRIANGLE ESTATES – PLD2004-00018; SEP2004-00036; ARC2004-00017

Held a public meeting to consider an appeal of the Clark County Land Use Hearing Examiner's decision regarding application for a preliminary plat to subdivide approximately 2 acres into 12 single-family residential lots in the R1-6 zoning district.

The Board did not receive any public comment, oral or written, at this public meeting.

The Board certified reading the pertinent parts of the record.

*Stanton* referenced the bullets at the beginning of the appeal letter, which she thought should be clarified. First, one had to do with the wrong map being attached to the hearing examiner's final decision. She said she agreed with the appeal letter – the map changed from the one that showed the design with the 20 feet of the property incorporated to Exhibit 27. She said that's the one that should be with the final order.

*Morris* agreed and said that staff had made that suggestion in their report also.

*Stanton* stated that the other issue had to do with site distance, and the question as to whether there's any evidence in the record to support the fact that it's a public road – the 20 feet.

*Morris* said that the staff report had delineated the substantive issues fairly well. She said it's clear with the staff recommendation that were they to adopt that, the amendment to the Land Use Hearing Examiner's decision on the site distance issue would satisfy the appellant's concerns.

*Stanton* said to just move the condition A-10 to B-1, which would make it a requirement prior to the final plat. She said she agreed with that recommendation.

*Pridemore* said he didn't see a problem with that.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*Morris* then referenced the issue of making a firm declaration that it's not a public road. She asked Rich Lowry if they have the ability to make that declaration.

*Rich Lowry*, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, responded that he didn't think so. He said the hearing examiner was also advised to do that, and he didn't have the ability to determine title. Lowry said that staff's point was that the examiner didn't find that it was a public road; he simply quoted the language that was in the old deed just as the appellant's attorney did in her letter.

*Stanton* said her final thought on this was that there was no conclusive evidence in the record that the easement on Mrs. Fishwood's property is a public road.

*Lowry* said that what's important is that the examiner, notwithstanding the wrong map being attached, approved a layout that didn't rely on use of the neighboring driveway.

*Pridemore* asked if this issue could only be resolved by the courts.

*Lowry* said yes.

*Morris* indicated that it appeared they had reached a unanimous conclusion on this matter.

**MOVED** by Stanton to uphold the hearings examiner with changes as recommended in the staff report. Commissioners Morris, Stanton, and Pridemore voted aye. Motion carried. (See Tape 143)

PUBLIC HEARING: SECTION 30

Held a public hearing to consider development agreements with Section 30 property owners.

[MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY RIDER & ASSOCIATES]

PUBLIC HEARING: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

[MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY RIDER & ASSOCIATES]

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 17, 2004  
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

*2 p.m. Bid Openings*

Present at the Bid Opening: Rebecca Tilton, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Mike Westerman and Allyson Anderson, General Services

BID OPENING 2380

Held a public hearing for Bid Opening 2380 – Re-bid Deconstruction/Demolition of 520 NW 179<sup>th</sup> Street. Mike Westerman, General Services, opened and read bids and stated that it was their intention to award Bid 2380 on August 24, 2004, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' hearing room of the Clark County Public Service Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor. (See Tape 143A)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Betty Sue Morris/s/  
Betty Sue Morris, Chair

Judie Stanton, Commissioner

Craig A. Pridemore/s/  
Craig A. Pridemore, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Louise Richards/s/  
Clerk of the Board

rt